

WILSON BOROUGH
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
PENNSYLVANIA
FEBRUARY 12, 2007

The First Meeting of the Council of The Borough of Wilson was held in the Guy B. Tomaino Public Safety Building at 2040 Hay Terrace, Easton PA. President Feinberg called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll call followed.

PRESENT:

Leonard Feinberg, President	James Klass
Joan Lilly	James McGowan
Bob Reiss	David Schug
Louis Starniri	David Williams

ABSENT:

Ronald Nixon

Also present were: Mayor David S. Perruso, Solicitor Louis S. Minotti, Jr., Officer Bud Shull, Assistant Superintendent Ron Behler, Code Enforcement Officer Paul R. Corriere, Chief Michael Collins

READING OF THE MINUTES:

The Minutes of the January 22, 2007 Council Meeting were approved on a Motion by Mr. McGowan. Second by Mr. Schug.

PRESENTATION OF MATTERS BY PERSONS PRESENT:

1. An unidentified woman appeared before Council to complain about crossing guard Sue Jarrell. The woman contends that Ms. Jarrell is rude, belligerent, and verbally abusive to everyone. Ms. Jarrell calls the Police during altercations. A petition is being signed requesting that Ms. Jarrell receive anger management training or be terminated. The woman feels the residents deserve better.

COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS:

1. Ms. Lohrman reminded the Police Pension Board that there is a meeting next Wednesday, February 21, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.
2. A letter was received from Donald C. Frederickson, P.E., Finelli Consulting Engineers West, Inc., regarding making Center Street one-way. Based on conversations with PennDot the inadequate sight distances are sufficient justification to permit Wilson Borough to make the change to the one-way roadway.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE MAYOR:

1. Mayor Perruso informed Council that the total fines collected by Judge Koury in December were \$8,439.32. The total fines collected in January were \$8,857.49.
2. Mayor Perruso continues to receive feedback about the situation at Wilson Elementary School. The Borough should investigate the situation further as complaints are still coming in.

COMMUNICATIONS BY THE BOROUGH MANAGER:

1. Ms. Lohrman has received an estimate from Servpro for the mold remediation in the municipal building. As the quote was over \$13,000.00, Ms. Lohrman requested Council's permission to advertise for bids. Mr. Drake estimates the ceiling tiles to cost around \$500.00 and will estimate the cost of the new wallpaper.
2. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that there had been a slight misunderstanding concerning the girl scout cookie delivery on February 16, 2007. The center had been booked by Mr. McGowan for the girl scouts. It had not been booked by someone else. Ms. Lohrman felt that the center would be a better place to have the delivery as a truck will be bringing the cookies and must be unloaded. After the cookies are sorted, the scouts will be picking the cookies up. The community center parking lot could better handle the delivery and traffic better than the municipal building lot. Ms. Lohrman can have the Public Works department open the center up and Mr. McGowan has offered to close the center. No one from Council objected allowing the girl scouts to use the center.
3. Ms. Lohrman explained to Council that we current have a shortage of crossing guards. One guard

is out due to an extended illness. Another is out for several weeks due to surgery and another guard will be undergoing surgery shortly. Chief Nace has approved the application of Dawn Reichard for crossing guard. Ms. Lohrman requested permission to hire Ms. Reichard.

4. Ms. Lohrman has received a Payment Request #2 or final payment approval from Ms. Montgomery for the municipal building parking lot. Ms. Montgomery has inspected the lot and has approved the payment of \$17,645.96 to Nimaris Construction.

5. Ms. Lohrman received a call from John Earl, our representative from the DCNR, concerning the bike path. The grant that we received from the bike path was for the development of drawings, specifications and related documents that will facilitate the bidding and construction, signage, ADA access and other related site documents. The grant is not for the construction of the bike path. The grant expires in April 2007 and there are no more extensions. Ms. Lohrman informed Mr. Earl that two businesses had verbally agreed to pave a portion of the bike path adjacent to their properties. Mr. Earl strongly recommended that the Borough bid out the construction of the bike path in entirety and have the businesses make a financial contribution to the bike path. The Borough may have a problem if someone other than the Borough paved the bike path and then a problem occurred in the construction. Motion by Ms. Lilly to have the Borough Engineer complete all documents required for the completion of the bike path prior to the grants expiration in April. Second by Mr. Starniri.

6. Ms. Lohrman has spoken Linda Costa from PSAB concerning the Junior Council Person program. Ms. Lohrman forwarded the materials received from Ms. Costa to Borough Council. Ms. Lohrman reminded Council that the Junior Council Person is forbidden to go in Executive Sessions and is not permitted to vote in any manner. Ms. Costa suggested working with the school district and the guidance counselor in finding a suitable person for the position. The student is not required to live in Wilson, does not have to be at the very top of the class, and does not have to be a junior or senior. The candidate should have an interest in government. Mr. McGowan and Mr. Reiss felt that Council should attend a Government Day. Mr. Reiss added that it has been a problem for the school district to send the students to Government Day.

7. Ms. Lohrman has received a Borough Code Revision Survey from PSAB. The committee will be reviewing the Specific Powers (1202) section of the Borough Code. The next meeting is March 20, 2007 and they will be reviewing sections 1202 (37-80). If anyone is interested in contributing, Ms. Lohrman has a copy of the Borough Code in her office.

8. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that Mr. Feinberg, Mayor Perruso, Mr. Drake, Ms. Montgomery, and Ms. Lohrman met with AMS concerning the Safe Routes to School project. The material will be a red brick surface comprised of red granite. AMS will replace the crosswalks on S. 22nd Street. Because of temperate constraints, the project will not be completed until the spring, possibly after school is out for the year. PennDot does not have a problem with the timing.

9. Ms. Lohrman informed Council that AARP was proceeding with the replacement of the sound system. Mr. McGowan had met the sound company last Friday and the center and the new system is installed. AARP purchased the sound system as a two year donation for the use of the facility.

10. Ms. Lohrman provided Council with a short update on the current Housing Rehab projects. The first project has been completed and has been inspected by Mr. Corriere. The owner of the second home does not wish to use the lowest bidder to do the job. Ms. Lohrman contacted Ms. Hutzel in Harrisburg about the issue. As long as the homeowner pays the difference between the bids, another contractor can do the job. Mr. Corriere noted that he has received a check from the homeowner for the job. Mayor Perruso questioned allowing the homeowner to pay the difference between bidders if they didn't have any money to complete the project themselves. Mr. Klass requested a short synopsis or specs on each project so Council would know what each project entails.

11. Ms. Lohrman requested an Executive Session on a personnel matter.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT:

1. Mr. McGowan has received information from CreditTech offering collection services for utility bills. All fees will be passed on to the delinquent account holder. Mr. Feinberg felt it was a good idea to look into acquiring the services of a strict collection agency. Mr. McGowan was requested to have a representative attend a future Council meeting.

2. Mr. McGowan has received a preventative maintenance agreement for the clock in front of Mr. Minotti's office. The agreement provides up to 2 hours of service, 2 visits per year, and a discount on parts. The cost is \$475.00 per year. Mr. Feinberg requested the General Government committee look into the matter and make a recommendation to Council.

FIRE:

1. Mr. Starniri has received a request from Chief Collins to promote Stuart Cochran to the drivers list. Mr. Cochran has fulfilled all the requirements for the promotion. Motion to promote Mr. Cochran to the drivers list by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Klass.

POLICE:

None

PUBLIC WORKS:

None

PARKS AND RECREATION:

1. Mr. Klass inquired about the status on the grants for Fisk field. Ms. Lohrman replied that the grant decisions would not be made until the spring. Ms. Lohrman will notify Mr. Klass and Ms. Lilly as soon as she hears word.

SOLICITOR:

1. Mr. Minotti has completed the Police Collective Bargaining Agreement which embodies the last contract from 1999 and several arbitration agreements. Council persons were provided with a copy in their packets. Any questions should be directed to Mr. Minotti. Motion by Mr. Reiss to have the appropriate persons execute the contract. Second by Mr. Starniri.

MECAB:

1. Mr. McGowan informed everyone that MECAB had met in Fountain Hill last month. Joan from Coopersburg has replaced Ralph Yob. The next meeting will be held on February 28, 2007. Mr. McGowan hopes to have more information at the next Council meeting.

2. Mr. Starniri is on the PSAB Resolution committee. The deadline is approaching for Resolutions to be heard at the Annual PSAB convention. Resolutions must be approved by MECAB by the April meeting. Mr. McGowan added that the PSAB Spring Conference program will be on legislative topics.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Mr. Feinberg informed Council that he had attended a meeting in Forks Township concerning Police accreditation. The Borough had received a proposal from Forks Township to be the Borough's accreditation manager. Motion by Mr. Reiss to draw up the contract. Second by Mr. Williams.

DEFERRED BUSINESS:

1. Borough Council questioned PennDot waving the traffic study to make Center Street one-way. Motion by Mr. Reiss to have Ms. Lohrman discuss the traffic study with PennDot. Second by Mr. Schug. The study does not have to be completed by an engineer.

2. Motion by Ms. Lilly to advertise for bids for mold remediation in the municipal building. Second by Mr. Starniri.

3. Council agreed to allow the girl scouts to use the community center for their cookie delivery.

4. Motion by Mr. Starniri to hire Dawn Marie Reichard as a crossing guard. Second by Mr. Schug. Mr. Klass suggested rotating crossing guards around to different corners. Some intersections are more difficult than others. It may relieve the pressure on the guards. The unidentified woman offered to be a crossing guard. She was directed to pick up an application at the borough office. She was advised that there would be a background check. Mr. McGowan added that the street has signage on it regarding parking. The parents should follow the signage. Officer Shull replied that the police are trying to address the situation.

5. Motion by Ms. Lilly to pay the final bill to Nimaris for the parking lot. Second by Mr. Starniri.

6. Ms. Lilly questioned whether the inadvertent pay increase for the rank and file in the Public Works department had been addressed. Mr. Feinberg stated that it was an error in calculation. Mr. Reiss made a Motion to talk to the Public Works department about the additional \$0.04/hour increase, but not the have them pay back the additional money. Second by Ms. Lilly.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ORDINANCES:

1. Ordinance 735 –Bushkill Creek Watershed Act 167. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Williams, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug and Mr. Starniri. There were not any negative votes. Ordinance 735 passed by an eight to zero vote.

2. Ordinance 736 – Fry's Run Watershed Act 167. Affirmative votes were cast by: Mr. Feinberg, Mr. Klass, Ms. Lilly, Mr. Williams, Mr. McGowan, Mr. Reiss, Mr. Schug and Mr. Starniri. There were not any negative votes. Ordinance 736 passed by an eight to zero vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

None

BILLS AND ACCOUNTS:

Bills of \$128,668.90 were paid on a Motion by Mr. Starniri. Second by Mr. Schug.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Starniri made a Motion to adjourn at 8:20 p.m. Second by Ms. Lilly and Council concurred.

Transcribed from a tape.


KAREN A. LOHRMAN, BOROUGH SECRETARY